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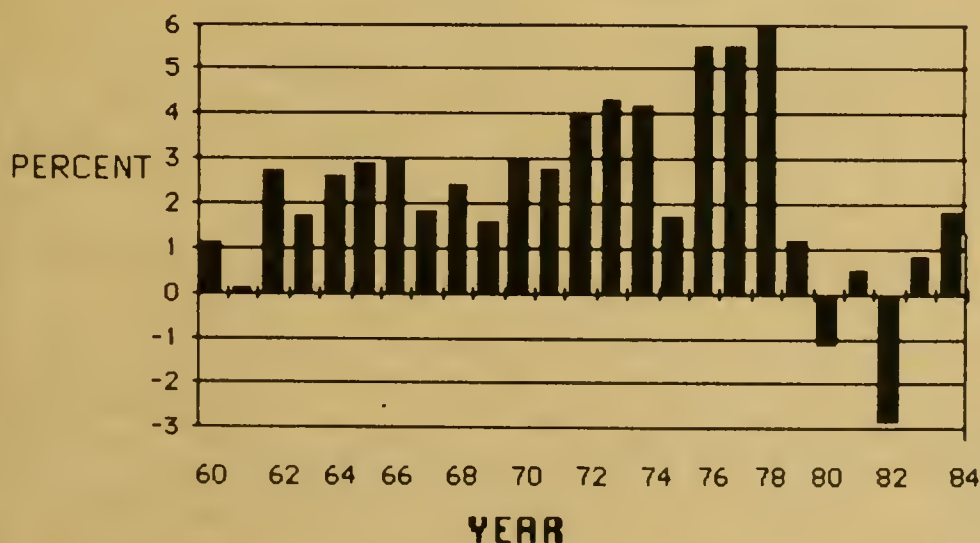
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EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE QUARTERLY REPORT THIRD QUARTER 1985

MONTANA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT GROWTH
PERCENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
1960 - 1984



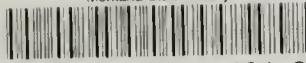
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EMPLOYMENT GROWTH RATES FOR MONTANA

The cover graph illustrates the yearly growth rate in the nonagriculture wage and salary employment. The slower growth rate years centers around the recession periods. Not since 1958 has a negative growth rate appeared in Montana's economy. The 1980's economic base has experienced a certain amount of erosion, creating greater possibility of a negative growth rate to occur again during a recession period.



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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

Quarterly Report

3rd. Qtr. 1985

STATE OF MONTANA

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

Department of Labor and Industry

David E. Wanzenried, Commissioner

All statistics for labor force employment, unemployment, and unemployment rates contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis which is called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate Federal funds and to determine eligibility for Federal assistance programs.

Volume 15 - Number 3
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

CENTRALIZED SERVICES DIVISION



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

(406) 444-2430
STATE CAPITOL

STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59624
P.O. Box 1728

Dear Reader:

The purpose of this publication is to report labor market information for the state of Montana. Economic conditions in Montana are highlighted in narrative form and in statistical tables.

Most of the information is obtained through surveys of the population and employers in federal-state cooperative programs. Other sources of information include administrative records, selected economic indicators, and nationally collected statistics.

I am sure this publication will be useful to you. Any suggestions or comments for improvements are always welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Rafferty".

Bob Rafferty, Chief
Research & Analysis Bureau

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the armed forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployed - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed using the X-11 ARIMA method of seasonal adjustment. This is the same method used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to seasonally adjust the national labor force series.
8. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
9. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area - as determined by the Office of Management and Budget. The MSA must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more.
10. LFA - Labor Force Area as determined by the Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, consists of a central city or cities with a population of less than 50,000 and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.
11. SDA - The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) was established to replace CETA in job search, placement, relocation, and especially training assistance. Each state designs local plans for JTPA programs through a Private Industry Council (PIC). Each PIC jurisdiction is known as Service Delivery Area (SDA). The two SDA's for Montana are known as Rural CEP (Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Madison, Meagher, Powell, and Silver Bow counties) and Balance of State (the other 46 counties).
12. BENCHMARKING - It is a continuous process of establishing a new set of data which affects the series of estimates through revisions. Once a new benchmark is established, the adjustments to estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one are carried forward progressively to the current month by use of sample trends. The benchmark is established less frequently (usually once a year) based on sample or secondary data. In case of employment data, the benchmark is used to establish the level of employment, while the sample is primarily used to measure the month - to - month changes in the level.
13. CES-790 Program - current employment statistics survey produces monthly estimates of a wide variety of employment and earnings information for the nation and each state.

Montana Employment and Unemployment Situation
(In Thousands)

	SEP. 1985 <u>Prelim</u>	AUG. 1985 <u>Revised</u>	JUL. 1985 <u>Revised</u>	SEP. 1984 <u>Revised</u>
Civilian Labor Force	402.3	418.0	419.9	410.4
Employment	377.0	390.5	391.7	386.7
Unemployment	25.3	27.5	28.2	23.7
Unemployment Rate	6.3%	6.6%	6.7%	5.8%

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

STATEWIDE

Montana's employment and unemployment figures are indicating a significant change in the economic outlook. Non-farm employment had been improving since March 1983, but the 27 month growth pattern came to a halt in June 1985. When the monthly unemployment rate was compared to the same month one year ago, a 23 consecutive month series of a lower unemployment rate that started in September 1983 ended in August 1985. Meanwhile, the national economy is still in a modest uptrend.

In September the wage and salary employment survey points out that in the private sector only the service industry's employment improved over one year ago. There has been a loss of 2,600 jobs since last year: -300 in durable manufacturing; -400 in nondurable manufacturing; -700 in oil and gas exploration; -900 in construction; -300 in transportation; -600 in communications and utilities; -500 in wholesale trade; -200 in retail trade; and -100 in banking.

Several other state economic developments signal that the underlying conditions have weakened. Foremost is the decline in agriculture production caused by the past drought and current low crop prices. Montana's personal income from April through June declined 0.1 percent. Only three states experienced a drop in their personal income as the national average rose 1.1 percent. New businesses enrolling in the unemployment insurance program continued to fall off last years pace. The oil and gas exploration activity dwindled further - the rig count in October is 50 percent less than last year. Montana's construction contracts are 28 percent down from a year ago according to a national reporting system. Year-to-date 1984 was \$446.7 million and year-to-date 1985 is \$320.2 million in construction contracts.

Tourism turned in a mixed performance this summer. Visitation was up at attractions like the Custer Battlefield and Yellowstone National Park and down at Glacier National Park. The overall tourist season was on par with 1984 with increasing numbers of California and Washington visitors and declining Canadian sight-seers.

Recent tourism studies have been summarized in the autumn Montana Business Quarterly. Among the findings:

- * Montana lacks a clearly defined image in the minds of a large number of potential vacationers.
- * Of those who are familiar with Montana's vacation features, most give the state a good or an excellent rating.
- * People from out of state rate the state's recreation opportunities especially highly.
- * Those most likely to visit Montana are residents of nearby states who have blue collar, technical, or middle-management occupations, have yearly household incomes between \$30,000 and \$50,000, and are between the ages of 20 and 44.

This years oil and gas exploration decline follows the national trend, but Montana's reduction is more prevalent. Hopefully some of the pro-oil action taken by the state legislature will soon result in positive developments. Often U.S. oil activity hinges on the international developments, and the Middle East situation just cannot be predicted. In Montana, last year's oil production of 30 million bbls was a slight increase over 1983 output.

The Public Service Commission had a major shift in policy by allowing power companies to charge a lower electric or natural gas rate to certain major industrial users that are experiencing financial problems. There is an interruptible power stipulation included. Specifics of the policy need to be determined. In the first approval to a reduced electric rate for a chemical firm with 200 employees, the power company's stockholders are absorbing the cost differences.

All of the hospitals are experiencing financial strains and the rural hospitals have the most serious problems. State medical authorities estimate that between one-quarter and one-half Montana's smallest hospitals could close within the next 18 months, costing a number of small communities both their primary source of health care and their chief employer. A financial report of the state's hospitals noted that 10 of the 60 hospitals lost money last year. Nine of those 10 hospitals are located in rural or semi-rural areas and have fewer than 30 beds. Shorter stays, fewer patients and increasing competition are the major forces driving the health-care dollar from small towns.

GREAT FALLS MSA

Increased activities at Malmstrom Air Force Base will boost the Great Falls economy. In March 600 Strategic Air Command personnel will arrive for an eight-month stay. The personnel and 20 aircraft will be assigned to Great Falls until runway construction is completed on the Ellsworth Air Force base in Rapid City, S.D. About 200 of the staff will live in off-base hotels. Great Falls is one of the considered places for a permanent home for the mission when Ellsworth gets its B-1 bombers.

A Minuteman missile maintenance program provided 100 new jobs with 60 workers hired locally. The periodic repairs extend the life of missile silos and launch control facilities past the year 2000. About 10 percent of the work is contracted out to area subcontractors. Most of the workers drive to the work sites daily from Great Falls. Also, contracts totaling nearly \$2.6 million have been awarded for various remodeling, repair, and expansion projects on the Malmstrom Air Force Base.

Great Falls has been selected as the site of an automated flight-service station. Billings was the original choice but controversy prompted a second round of bidding by seven Montana cities. The facility will be in full operation in the early 1990's with a staff of 56 high paying jobs. Under the bid conditions, the flight station's construction and maintenance cost is the city's responsibility.

Of the major construction projects, the largest is probably the 74-mile, \$6.8 million powerline replacement between Great Falls and Conrad. About 400 workers are stringing lines and erecting power poles. The project had some delays from extra welding required on the metal poles and from abnormal moisture received late in the summer. The delays may keep the project from making the scheduled December 1 completion date. Retail trade expansion is lead by two discount stores and a combination food and drug store - a combined 232,000 square-foot construction of floor space. Local contractors were upset when they were not given an opportunity to bid on the food and drug store construction. The parent corporation is located in Salt Lake and a Utah firm was chosen to build the store.

Great Falls' two livestock auction markets have merged, saying northern Montana no longer has enough cattle to support two auction yards. Billings is the only Montana city left with two auction barns and they both are owned by the same firm. About 55-60 percent of cattle sold in the state are sold at auction facilities.

A Great Falls veterinarian has opened an animal clinic that will become a referral center for all of Montana and some outlying states and Canadian provinces. Its primary purpose is to serve as a specialty

center for other veterinarians. The center is large enough to accommodate 12 veterinarians and about 40 other employees.

BILLINGS MSA

The Bureau of Reclamation is closing its regional office in Denver and moving it to Billings. The consolidation could bring between 50 and 70 new government employees to Billings during the next six months. The bureau decided to combine the two offices to reduce government spending and to increase efficiency, and they found Billings the best choice.

An area railroad firm is constructing a new rail welding complex east of Laurel. The seven building facility will be used as a recycling center for used track and as a rail welding facility for joining new and used track into quarter-mile lengths. Most of the welding will be done by two electric welders weighing about 50 tons each.

Significant platinum and palladium deposits were discovered in the so-called Stillwater complex 80 miles southeast of Billings in the late 1960s, and now further test mining is planned. If the test mining phase shows positive results, and all government approvals are obtained, construction of necessary mine facilities could be completed for commercial production by late 1987. Between 50 and 100 workers will be used during the evaluation period.

In Carbon County two energy exploration projects started drilling and another is near approval. For some of the activity, helicopters are being used to shuttle equipment and workers to and from the testing area.

Montana's tallest commercial office building was completed this summer in Billings. The \$15 million, 18 floor structure is anchored by a bank, and nearly 90 percent of the leasable space is committed.

The debate over whether Billings has a glut or a balance of office space has been increased by the 185,250 square foot tallest tower. General consensus indicates that the Class A space is more in balance, but the mid and low priced office space in the Magic City is considered in the glut category. Billings may experience a period of overbuild, not only in office space, but also in hotels and apartments. Multi-family building permits indicates this year's request is down by 62 percent in value compared to the same time last year. The declining occupancy rate for hotels and motels is a factor that developers will observe in future expansion plans. The number of rooms has nearly tripled in the last five years.

Leading the fall construction projects that will spill into next year are the new high school and the new \$10 million jail. A new business park in southwestern Billings will be the site of considerable construction activity. Among the upcoming projects are: a health club, an office building, a 120-room hotel, a bank, and a 300,000 square-foot shopping center.

Two Billings developers are planning a \$3.5 million condominium complex for people who are 55 years of age or older. Before they can start, the developers are waiting on several approvals from government agencies such as obtaining age restriction confirmation. Such certification would make the project the first private senior housing project in Montana.

MISSOULA - KALISPELL - SHELBY LEA

Manufacturing continues on the slow side. Lumber and wood industry's lay-offs have been mostly short term, but automation continues to reduce the work force required at lumber mills. A furniture manufacturer in Missoula failed to obtain a low interest loan from the city and now anticipates about 20 layoffs that were added on basis of the grant approval. In Polson a work force reduction for several weeks was necessary for a electronic firm and a honey plant. In Missoula a bakery plans a permanent closure at the end of November - resulting in a 30 job loss. About 20 drivers will keep their jobs and make area deliveries using bakery products delivered from Billings.

The Blackfeet Indian tribe has signed a multi-million dollar agreement with a major oil company to lease 250,000 acres on the reservation for oil and gas exploration. Two successful wells brought in since early August could set off a new exploratory campaign in the area.

Several housing projects are planned throughout the area with emphasis on building for the retirement buyers. A new 800 unit subdivision North of Kalispell has plans for 40 units per year growth. A 16 unit elderly apartment in Bigfork is scheduled to open soon. In Missoula, a proposed 186 new apartment and condominium complex is having approval problems with city officials. The size of the complex considered is too large for the location chosen. A Hamilton developer wants to convert an old hospital facility into low income rental units. The 1985 home building permits in Missoula are at half the pace of last year, but the recently released state's low interest loan program has Missoula as the most active Montana city in acquiring loans.

The aluminum plant located near Columbia Falls had a complex employee buyout plan approved by the plant's corporate owners. The new ownership details need to be negotiated with the plant workers. Also, future aluminum production contracts need to be negotiated with buyers. The current production, inventory, and receivables will belong to the selling corporation until April 1986. The Montana Board of Investments agreed to provide \$8 million of the \$10 million required for working capital to the new owners.

An auto dealer that tried to revise its debt problems announced the auto sales and repair business would close permanently. Approximately 110 employees are out of work as a result of the shutdown. However, seven applications have been submitted to the auto manufacturer to continue the business in Missoula.

A motel-convention complex located near Whitefish that just opened this year plans to expand their meeting-convention facilities with a 300 person capacity meeting room. The earlier than anticipated addition will be constructed by next spring, as the larger convention space is already being booked for next summer.

A Kalispell firm has a nearly \$1 million contract to make aluminum castings for a Florida weapons systems company. The local manufacturer has grown from 3 employees in 1983 to the current 37 workers of which 60 percent are women. Also, a tribal electronics firm has been awarded a \$3.2 million contract to build U.S. army tank heater units.

ANACONDA - BUTTE - HELENA LFA

Another surge of eating establishments occurred in Helena and Butte with fast food style the majority of new restaurants. One of the fast food restaurants that opened in Butte will seat 126 and plans to hire 120 full and part-time workers.

Motel expansion has just been completed at one of Helena's larger facilities, and a \$3.5 million expansion is planned at a Butte motel. It appears the larger motels are more active in expansion plans.

A Dillon home builder received a contract to build 78 new pre-fab homes which will be placed on several Indian Reservations. The construction firm will employ 30 workers and another contract for 200 more homes is being reviewed.

A phosphorus plant near Butte has requested and received a discount electric rate because of a saturated phosphorus market and higher

production cost than most similar facilities. The phosphorus plant is one of the states biggest electrical customers and employs about 200 people. The Public Service Commission approved the requested electrical cost reduction that the chemical company's officials noted is needed to continue production.

A successful test run at the experimental coal-fired magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) power generation system south of Butte indicated strength in new technology to improve America as a self-sufficient energy producing country. Commercial production is still about 10 years away but earlier predictions had a workable MHD system 50 years away. Funding for the MHD development has shifted from federal backing to more private involvement in recent years. Leading the list of proposals to commercialize MHD is the current coal-fueled power plant in Billings at a cost of \$412.8 million.

The copper mining facility in Butte has been sold to a Missoula based construction and mining firm. The mining operation has been inactive since July 1983. If the mining operation returns, the employment level could be between 200 and 350 workers. Recent studies on worldwide copper producers does not give a favorable outlook to U.S. producers. The previous owner noted they would only consider active mining if the copper price reached \$1.00 per pound and the current price is around \$.65 per pound.

The proposed open pit gold mine near Helena has a new owner. The Spokane based firm also took over an operating gold mine in central Montana. The Department of State Lands plans to have a draft environmental impact study released in November for the Helena gold mine. Water quality issues have delayed the permit application on the project that would employ more than 300 workers during the construction phase and between 230 and 340 employees for mining operations.

The Butte-Silver Bow government has received a \$600,000 federal grant to get a new "business incubator" facility started. The operation is to help new businesses by allowing them to use the computers, staff and telephones in the facility until they are financially able to make it on their own. The facility is expected to open next summer and employ about 100 people.

Butte and Anaconda are reaping a wealth of interested responses from a magazine advertisement in several business publications targeted at the management of expanding companies. The ads have produced 220 responses for Butte and 190 for Anaconda.

BOZEMAN - LEWISTOWN LFA

Area seed-potato farmers may lose most of their crop to frost. Many farmers had a larger energy cost in this crop because of the constant irrigating through the hot, dry summer. Once the seed potatoes freeze they break down, begin to get mushy and cannot be stored.

A draft environment impact statement on a proposed gold mine near Jardine is scheduled for release in October 1985. The mining operation would employ about 140 workers. A major concern is the extra traffic that would be created by the mining activity - busing of workers may be necessary to reduce heavy traffic problems.

Owners of a mobile-home manufacturing plant located in Belgrade desire to sell their plant. Employees are willing to take a 23 percent cut in wages and benefits to help attract a buyer. Production and employment has declined over the last few years, as mobile-home industry sales dropped off.

A Bozeman museum announced a \$6 million expansion plan that will take two years to complete. While the museum has gained much acclaim for the work with dinosaurs, expansion includes a planetarium, added historical displays and art displays. Museum officials expect the visitor rate to triple to 150,000 people a year and add 18 new employees.

Gallatin County Commissioners applied for a \$300,000 state grant to help provide water and sewer lines and other improvements for the technology park near Montana State University. Bozeman received a \$500,000 grant to remodel substandard houses.

In Lewistown, a new firm has been established with a unique product - an invention that looks like glasses but contains batteries and lights on each side of the head. The product frees a worker's hands of holding a flashlight. The primary market has been auto mechanics, plumbers and electricians and has worldwide distribution. The product is manufactured in Hong Kong, but some product assembly and all shipping is handled in Lewistown.

HAVRE - GLASGOW LFA

Many counties of the hi-line received enough moisture in August and September to bring the total up to the normal for the year. However, the rain is too late to help this year's crop.

A Havre tractor manufacturing firm is starting a come back in production after financial problems that started in 1983. The company is now employing 45 people after being at a low of about 25 people. They have a \$950,000 loan for capital investment through a county Community Development Block Grant. Current plans are to build the massive size tractors only when they have been ordered.

A juvenile chemical dependency center for Native Americans has been proposed at the former Air Force Base near Glasgow. Youth from 25 Indian Reservations in five states would receive counseling for drug-alcohol problems. The former base hospital has already been converted for such a program and is ready for occupancy. A staff up to 30 personnel could accommodate 30 to 50 Indian youth at the facility. Funding needs to be approved through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Construction continues on remodeling the Air Force radar station near Havre. Some construction delays have occurred from weather conditions and a fire destroying part of the construction material. Most of the Air Force personnel will arrive next spring. The facility will be used for monitoring low-level bomber training flights. In Big Sandy, a nursing home is being added on to the hospital at a \$900,000 cost. In Glasgow, construction of a vocational-mechanic shop facility next to the high school was completed this summer.

MILES CITY - GLENDIVE LFA

Two coal related projects have been given tentative approval but opponents are appealing the authorization. An 89-mile railroad from Miles City to a planned coal mining field near Ashland was approved by an Interstate Commerce Commission judge. The major dislike comes from area ranchers who feel the rail line would harm their irrigation and livestock operations. Even the rail line backers want the judge's decision clarified with regard to the railroad owners being able to have an interest in the coal mining.

The way was cleared for a California company to begin construction of a \$40 million coal liquefaction plant near Colstrip. The facility will use low grade coal to produce oil for sale to refinery processing and generate up to 30 megawatts of electricity. It is estimated the project would create 150 construction jobs and 35 permanent jobs.

Leading the objection to build is an agriculture protective group that has concerns about odors, the coal's ash content and ash disposal.

In Glendive, a rural telephone cooperative is cutting operator service which will result in a 10 person layoff. Also, Glendive is losing a national chain department store. The closure will affect 8 employees. On the upswing for Glendive is a downtown mini-mall consisting of five stores that have opened for business. A regional farm-home retail outlet plans to open soon in Glendive.

Sugar beet harvest has been hampered by the early freezing weather, but harvesters have been turning in record crops for processing at the Sidney sugar factory. The processing and manufacturing will continue through February. A new by-product, which will be used as a cattle feed supplement, is being developed from the pressed pulp.

TABLE I-A

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Not Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

	Civilian	Employment			Unemployment			Labor
	Labor					Percent 1/		Manage
Date	Force	Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Montana	U.S.	-ment
								Dispute 2/
1983								
January	377.8	335.4	316.1	19.3	42.4	11.2%	11.4%	*
February	379.0	335.6	314.6	21.0	43.4	11.5%	11.3%	*
March	385.2	343.6	318.4	25.2	41.6	10.8%	10.8%	*
April	393.8	355.2	324.2	31.0	38.6	9.8%	10.0%	*
May	395.2	360.6	328.6	32.0	34.6	8.8%	9.8%	
June	409.6	374.1	337.7	36.4	35.5	8.7%	10.2%	*
July	411.7	376.2	337.2	39.0	35.5	8.6%	9.4%	*
August	414.4	381.7	340.0	41.7	32.7	7.9%	9.2%	1.6
September	404.5	377.7	345.2	32.5	26.8	6.6%	8.8%	.1
October	397.2	370.3	342.6	27.7	26.9	6.8%	8.4%	.1
November	393.7	363.5	339.7	23.8	30.2	7.7%	8.1%	1.6
December	389.9	358.1	337.6	20.5	31.8	8.2%	8.0%	1.6
Avg.	396.0	361.0	331.8	29.2	35.0	8.8%	9.6%	.2

<u>1984</u>								
January	384.1	346.8	328.0	18.8	37.3	9.7%	8.8%	.3
February	386.6	351.4	330.9	20.5	35.2	9.1%	8.4%	.3
March	395.3	360.5	335.9	24.6	34.8	8.8%	8.1%	.3
April	406.5	374.1	343.8	30.3	32.4	8.0%	7.6%	.2
May	411.2	383.4	352.2	31.2	27.8	6.8%	7.2%	.2
June	426.5	395.9	360.4	35.5	30.6	7.2%	7.4%	.1
July	420.5	391.1	353.1	38.0	29.4	7.0%	7.5%	
August	422.3	394.8	354.1	40.7	27.5	6.5%	7.3%	*
September	410.4	386.7	355.0	31.7	23.7	5.8%	7.1%	*
October	407.2	382.2	355.2	27.0	25.0	6.1%	7.0%	*
November	402.5	375.7	352.5	23.2	26.8	6.6%	6.9%	*
December	398.9	369.3	349.3	20.0	29.6	7.4%	7.0%	*
Avg.	406.0	376.0	347.5	28.5	30.0	7.4%	7.5%	.1

<u>1985</u>								
January	397.5	361.1	342.7	18.4	36.4	9.2%	8.0%	*
February	399.0	365.6	345.6	20.0	33.4	8.4%	7.8%	*
March	405.3	372.7	348.7	24.0	32.6	8.0%	7.5%	*
April	414.7	382.7	353.2	29.5	32.0	7.7%	7.1%	.5
May	415.9	389.2	358.8	30.4	26.7	6.4%	7.0%	.9
June	426.8	397.6	362.9	34.7	29.2	6.8%	7.5%	1.0
July	419.9	391.7	354.6	37.1	28.2	6.7%	7.4%	.9
August	417.9	390.4	350.7	39.7	27.5	6.6%	6.9%	1.2
September	402.3	377.0	346.0	31.0	25.3	6.3%	6.9%	1.6
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

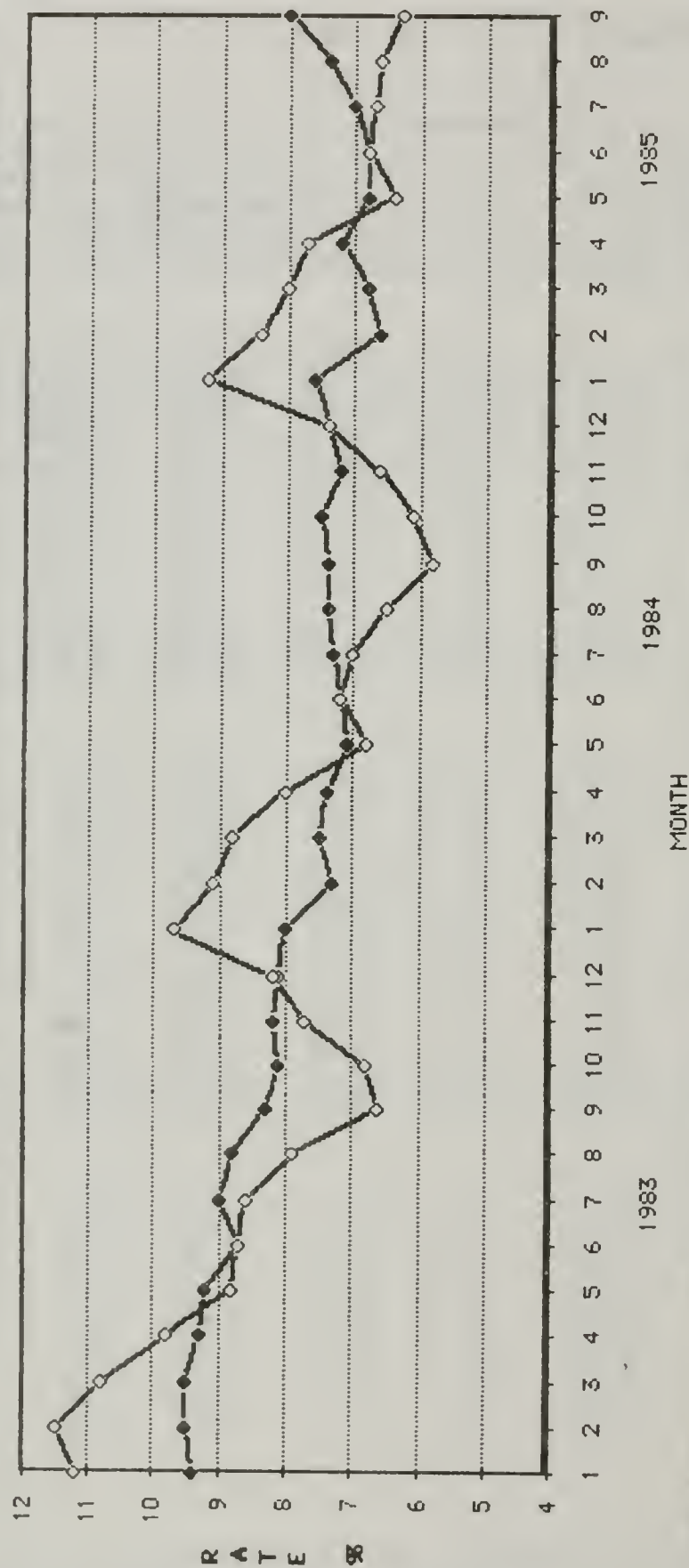
1/ Computed from whole (unrounded numbers). Series began January 1970.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. Revised to 1984 Benchmarks.

* Under 50. Most recent month is preliminary.

TABLE I-B

MONTANA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES 1983 TO 1985



-- UNADJUSTED RATE -- THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS DIVIDED BY THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EXPRESSED AS A PERCENT.

-<- SEASONALLY ADJUSTED RATE-- THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS DIVIDED BY THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EXPRESSED AS A PERCENT, ADJUSTED TO ELIMINATE THE EFFECTS OF SEASONAL VARIATIONS, SUCH AS SCHOOL TERMS, HOLIDAYS, WEATHER, AND MAINTENANCE CLOSURES.

TABLE 11
Montana Labor Force Areas 1/
Civilian Labor Force
(In Thousands)

	Civilian Labor Force				Employment				Unemployment				Unemployment Rate 2/			
	SEP. 1985	AUG. 1985	JUL. 1985	SEP. 1985	AUG. 1985	JUL. 1985	SEP. 1985	AUG. 1985	JUL. 1985	SEP. 1985	AUG. 1985	JUL. 1985	SEP. 1985	AUG. 1985	JUL. 1985	SEP. 1985
STATEWIDE	402.3	417.9	419.9	377.0	390.4	391.7	25.3	27.5	28.2	6.3%	6.6%	6.7%	6.3%	6.6%	6.7%	6.7%
Great Falls MSA	35.3	36.0	35.6	32.8	33.2	32.9	2.5	2.8	2.7	7.1%	7.8%	7.7%	7.1%	7.8%	7.7%	7.7%
Billings MSA	61.8	62.9	64.2	57.9	58.7	59.9	3.9	4.2	4.3	6.3%	6.7%	6.7%	6.3%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:																
Western District 3/	211.8	218.3	220.3	198.1	203.7	205.2	13.7	14.6	15.1	6.5%	6.7%	6.9%	6.5%	6.7%	6.9%	6.9%
Eastern District	190.6	199.7	199.6	179.0	186.7	186.5	11.6	13.0	13.1	6.1%	6.5%	6.6%	6.1%	6.5%	6.6%	6.6%
SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS:																
Rural CEP	63.4	64.6	64.8	59.4	60.1	60.1	4.0	4.5	4.7	6.4%	7.0%	7.2%	6.4%	7.0%	7.2%	7.2%
Balance of State	305.2	319.1	320.0	286.3	298.6	298.9	18.9	20.5	21.1	6.2%	6.4%	6.6%	6.2%	6.4%	6.6%	6.6%
ANACONDA-BUTTE	30.5	32.0	31.8	28.4	29.5	29.4	2.1	2.5	2.4	7.0%	7.7%	7.7%	7.0%	7.7%	7.7%	7.7%
BOZEMAN	31.6	32.7	33.1	30.1	31.1	31.6	1.5	1.6	1.5	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%	4.7%
GLASGOW	18.3	20.1	19.3	17.3	18.9	18.3	1.0	1.2	1.0	5.5%	5.9%	5.4%	5.5%	5.9%	5.4%	5.4%
GLENDIVE	16.7	18.2	18.5	16.0	17.3	17.5	.7	.9	1.0	4.5%	4.9%	5.4%	4.5%	4.9%	5.4%	5.4%
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.6	14.7	14.4	12.7	13.7	13.4	.9	1.0	1.0	6.5%	6.8%	7.3%	6.5%	6.8%	7.3%	7.3%
HAVRE	13.0	13.6	13.6	12.2	12.7	12.7	.8	.9	.9	6.5%	6.6%	6.6%	6.5%	6.6%	6.6%	6.6%
HELENA	31.7	31.2	31.6	29.8	29.3	29.5	1.8	1.9	2.1	5.8%	6.2%	6.8%	5.8%	6.2%	6.8%	6.8%
KALISPELL	46.2	48.6	49.0	43.0	45.3	45.5	3.2	3.3	3.5	6.9%	6.7%	7.1%	6.9%	6.7%	7.1%	7.1%
LEWISTOWN	11.0	12.0	11.9	10.4	11.3	11.2	.6	.7	.7	5.5%	5.8%	6.0%	5.5%	5.8%	6.0%	6.0%
MILES CITY	17.7	18.8	18.5	16.8	17.6	17.3	.9	1.2	1.2	5.2%	6.2%	6.4%	5.2%	6.2%	6.4%	6.4%
MISSOULA	55.7	56.0	57.1	56.8	52.0	52.8	3.9	4.0	4.3	7.1%	7.2%	7.5%	7.1%	7.2%	7.5%	7.5%
SHELBY-CUT BANK	19.2	21.3	21.1	17.9	19.9	19.8	1.3	1.4	1.3	6.8%	6.6%	6.4%	6.8%	6.6%	6.4%	6.4%

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Force Area appears on map on inside back cover.

2/ Unemployment Rate is calculated on unrounded numbers.

3/ Western congressional district includes the LFA's of: Anaconda-Butte, Bozeman, Helena, Kalispell, Missoula, and Shelby-Cut Bank less Chouteau County. Rural CEP includes the LFA's of: Anaconda-Butte, Helena, plus Meagher County.

TABLE III-A
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

SEPTEMBER 1985

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	402322	377018	25304	6.3
CASCADE	35328	32805	2523	7.1
YELLOWSTONE	61831	57960	3871	6.3
BEAVERHEAD	4853	4686	167	3.4
BIG HORN	5494	5061	433	7.9
BLAINE	3250	3023	227	7.0
BROADWATER	1770	1620	150	8.5
CARBON	4002	3776	226	5.6
CARTER	877	848	29	3.3
CHOUTEAU	3132	2929	203	6.5
CUSTER	6442	6172	270	4.2
DANIELS	1564	1530	34	2.2
DAWSON	5579	5365	214	3.8
DEER LODGE	3857	3449	408	10.6
FALLON	2276	2213	63	2.8
FERGUS	5945	5635	310	5.2
FLATHEAD	29077	27141	1936	6.7
GALLATIN	24581	23543	1038	4.2
GARFIELD	902	889	13	1.4
GLACIER	6678	6099	579	8.7
GOLDEN VALLEY	389	368	21	5.4
GRANITE	1300	1173	127	9.8
HILL	8674	8095	579	6.7
JEFFERSON	3162	2955	207	6.5
JUDITH BASIN	1273	1190	83	6.5
LAKE	9111	8475	636	7.0
LEWIS AND CLARK	26735	25265	1470	5.5
LIBERTY	1083	1047	36	3.3
LINCOLN	8008	7400	608	7.6
MC CONE	1386	1336	50	3.6
MADISON	2561	2469	92	3.6
MEAGHER	1223	1162	61	5.0
MINERAL	2034	1878	156	7.7
MISSOULA	39991	37445	2546	6.4
MUSSELSHELL	1937	1795	142	7.3
PARK	5765	5352	413	7.2
PETROLEUM	269	263	6	2.2
PHILLIPS	3353	3156	197	5.9
PONDERA	3497	3315	182	5.2
POWDER RIVER	1301	1262	39	3.0
POWELL	3591	3405	186	5.2
PRAIRIE	870	850	20	2.3
RAVALLI	9110	8304	806	8.8
RICHLAND	7304	6889	415	5.7
ROOSEVELT	6089	5713	376	6.2
ROSEBUD	6312	5816	496	7.9
SANDERS	4541	4123	418	9.2
SHERIDAN	2960	2903	57	1.9
SILVER BOW	14385	13217	1168	8.1
STILLWATER	2436	2272	164	6.7
SWEET GRASS	1625	1564	61	3.8
TETON	3260	3081	179	5.5
TOOLE	2668	2495	173	6.5
TREASURE	465	445	20	4.3
VALLEY	4332	3995	337	7.8
WHEATLAND	1188	1145	43	3.6
WIBAUX	696	656	40	5.7

TABLE III-B
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	AUGUST 1985 PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	417980	390454	27526	6.6
CASCADE	35998	33196	2802	7.8
YELLOWSTONE	62900	58704	4196	6.7
BEAVERHEAD	5236	5049	187	3.6
BIG HORN	5814	5350	464	8.0
BLAINE	3372	3146	226	6.7
BROADWATER	1867	1707	160	8.6
CARBON	4346	4046	300	6.9
CARTER	1021	1002	19	1.9
CHOUTEAU	3498	3346	152	4.3
CUSTER	6734	6416	318	4.7
DANIELS	1772	1725	47	2.7
DAWSON	6007	5755	252	4.2
DEER LODGE	4068	3584	484	11.9
FALLON	2383	2273	110	4.6
FERGUS	6266	5903	363	5.8
FLATHEAD	30392	28498	1894	6.2
GALLATIN	25231	24158	1073	4.3
GARFIELD	982	972	10	1.0
GLACIER	7408	6678	730	9.9
GOLDEN VALLEY	470	429	41	8.7
GRANITE	1423	1297	126	8.9
HILL	8892	8267	625	7.0
JEFFERSON	3194	2955	239	7.5
JUDITH BASIN	1428	1352	76	5.3
LAKE	9786	9138	648	6.6
LEWIS AND CLARK	26171	24619	1552	5.9
LIBERTY	1292	1242	50	3.9
LINCOLN	8386	7655	731	8.7
MC CONE	1544	1481	63	4.1
MADISON	3050	2954	96	3.1
MEAGHER	1318	1245	73	5.5
MINERAL	2151	2002	149	6.9
MISSOULA	39657	37162	2495	6.3
MUSSELSHELL	2227	2081	146	6.6
PARK	6120	5685	435	7.1
PETROLEUM	318	307	11	3.5
PHILLIPS	3702	3490	212	5.7
PONDERA	3797	3587	210	5.5
POWDER RIVER	1496	1473	23	1.5
POWELL	3719	3469	250	6.7
PRAIRIE	1054	1031	23	2.2
RAVALLI	9636	8682	954	9.9
RICHLAND	7842	7354	488	6.2
ROOSEVELT	6563	6154	409	6.2
ROSEBUD	6604	5924	680	10.3
SANDERS	4560	4121	439	9.6
SHERIDAN	3285	3151	134	4.1
SILVER BOW	14516	13193	1323	9.1
STILLWATER	2593	2433	160	6.2
SWEET GRASS	1922	1852	70	3.6
TETON	3495	3352	143	4.1
TOOLE	3080	2921	159	5.2
TREASURE	530	509	21	4.0
VALLEY	4785	4406	379	7.9
WHEATLAND	1291	1237	54	4.2
WIBAUX	788	736	52	6.6

TABLE III-C
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

			JULY	1985
COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	419878	391696	28182	6.7
CASCADE	35677	32938	2739	7.7
YELLOWSTONE	64197	59889	4308	6.7
BEAVERHEAD	5082	4914	168	3.3
BIG HORN	5723	5172	551	9.6
BLAINE	3354	3100	254	7.6
BROADWATER	1766	1688	78	4.4
CARBON	4240	3972	268	6.3
CARTER	973	955	18	1.8
CHOUTEAU	3486	3350	136	3.9
CUSTER	6783	6446	337	5.0
DANIELS	1732	1676	56	3.2
DAWSON	6080	5798	282	4.6
DEER LODGE	4044	3542	502	12.4
FALLON	2324	2245	79	3.4
FERGUS	6341	5903	438	6.9
FLATHEAD	30893	28884	2009	6.5
GALLATIN	25696	24658	1038	4.0
GARFIELD	979	964	15	1.5
GLACIER	7433	6695	738	9.9
GOLDEN VALLEY	433	397	36	8.3
GRANITE	1460	1313	147	10.1
HILL	8942	8336	606	6.8
JEFFERSON	3212	2947	265	8.3
JUDITH BASIN	1383	1300	83	6.0
LAKE	9756	9025	731	7.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	26702	24898	1804	6.8
LIBERTY	1263	1223	40	3.2
LINCOLN	8310	7557	753	9.1
MC CONE	1536	1467	69	4.5
MADISON	2994	2854	140	4.7
MEAGHER	1308	1243	65	5.0
MINERAL	2328	2149	179	7.7
MISSOULA	40703	38045	2658	6.5
MUSSELSHELL	2195	2076	119	5.4
PARK	6138	5687	451	7.3
PETROLEUM	303	297	6	2.0
PHILLIPS	3571	3375	196	5.5
PONDERA	3740	3540	200	5.3
POWDER RIVER	1504	1447	57	3.8
POWELL	3658	3471	187	5.1
PRAIRIE	1020	974	46	4.5
RAVALLI	9536	8565	971	10.2
RICHLAND	8041	7517	524	6.5
ROOSEVELT	6219	5832	387	6.2
ROSEBUD	6419	5742	677	10.5
SANDERS	4513	4057	456	10.1
SHERIDAN	3203	3116	87	2.7
SILVER BOW	14571	13278	1293	8.9
STILLWATER	2550	2375	175	6.9
SWEET GRASS	1925	1869	56	2.9
TETON	3446	3346	100	2.9
TOOLE	2990	2823	167	5.6
TREASURE	528	502	26	4.9
VALLEY	4635	4317	318	6.9
WHEATLAND	1245	1213	32	2.6
WIBAUX	795	734	61	7.7

TABLE IV-A
MONTANA
Statewide Employment by Industry
(In Thousands)

I N D U S T R Y	Net Changes to			
	Sep. 1985	Aug. 1985	Jul. 1985	Sep. 1984
from:				
(Residence Data)				
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/.....	402.3	417.9	419.9	-15.6
EMPLOYED PERSONS.....	377.0	390.4	391.7	-13.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture.....	31.0	39.7	37.1	-8.7
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS.....	25.3	27.5	28.2	-2.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/.....	6.3%	6.6%	6.7%	-0.3
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/.....	8.0%	7.4%	7.0%	0.6
(Establishment Data)				
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS.....	280.8	279.9	281.5	.9
Manufacturing.....	22.3	22.4	22.4	-.1
Mining.....	7.0	7.0	7.5	.0
Contract Construction.....	13.4	14.3	14.8	-.9
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	19.9	19.8	19.8	.1
Trade.....	77.8	78.0	78.0	-.2
Wholesale Trade.....	17.2	17.6	17.9	-.4
Retail Trade.....	60.6	60.4	60.1	.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate.....	13.4	13.4	13.5	.0
Services.....	62.0	62.7	63.0	-.7
Government.....	65.0	62.3	62.5	2.7
Federal Government.....	12.8	13.3	13.4	-.5
State and Local Government.....	52.2	49.1	49.2	3.1
				-3.1
				-2.9

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1984 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

TABLE IV-B

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(In Thousands)

MAJOR INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT				PERCENT FEMALE OF TOTAL	
	Sep. 1/ 1985	Aug. 1985	Jul. 1985	Sep. 1984	Sep. 1985	Sep. 1984
(Establishment Data)						
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers.	124.3	122.7	122.9	123.8	44%	43%
Manufacturing.....	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	19%	20%
Mining.....	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	10%	11%
Contract Construction.....	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.9	9%	13%
Transportation & Public Utilities.....	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.2	24%	25%
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	35.5	35.0	34.9	35.1	46%	45%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.....	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.6	67%	64%
Services.....	38.0	38.1	37.8	35.4	61%	58%
Government (Federal, State & Local)...	30.6	29.5	30.0	32.3	47%	47%

1/ Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1984 Benchmarks. New series started January 1983, previous series not strictly comparable.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

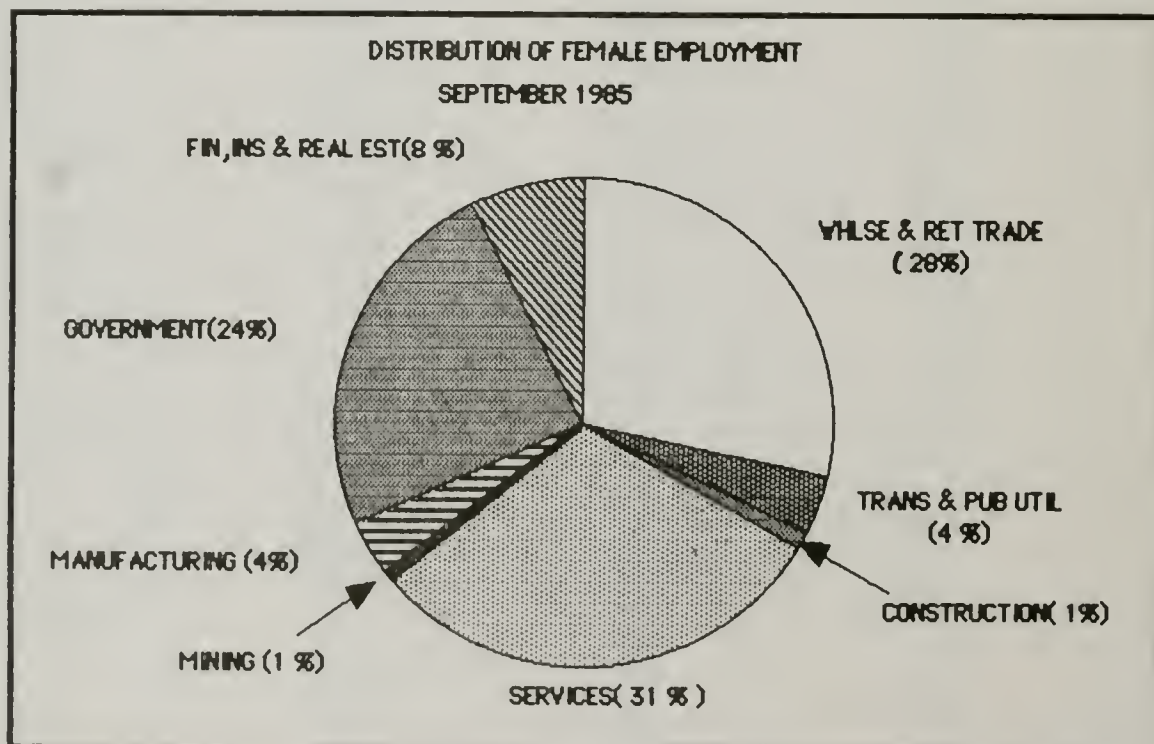


TABLE V-A

MONTANA HOURS & EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

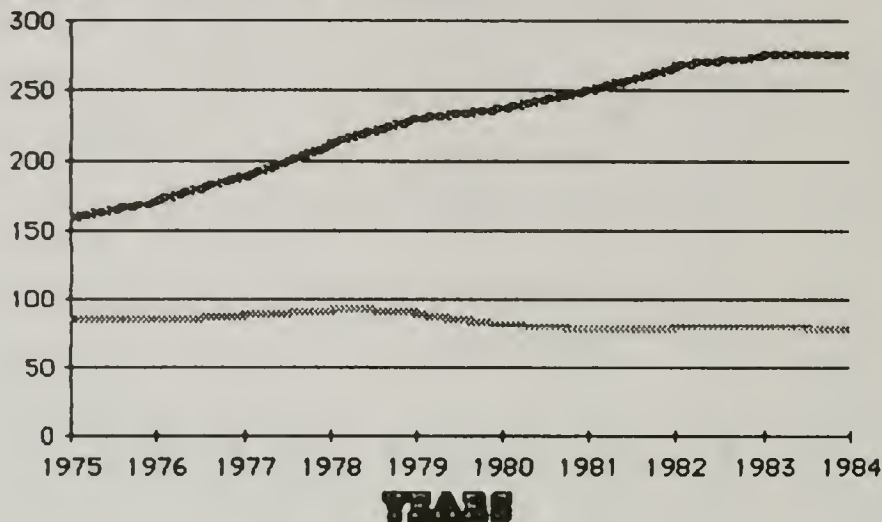
	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep. 1985	Aug. 1985	Jul. 1985	Sep. 1984	Aug. 1985	Jul. 1985	Sep. 1985	Aug. 1985	Sep. 1984
TOTAL PRIVATE.....	\$287.71	\$290.18	\$290.70	\$287.80	33.3	34.0	33.7	8.64	8.55
MANUFACTURING.....	431.54	427.36	416.26	425.42	39.7	39.1	39.5	10.87	10.84
Durable Goods.....	449.27	444.96	430.62	452.48	39.9	38.9	40.4	11.26	11.07
Primary Metal Industries..	579.21	584.92	511.34	583.23	41.7	41.9	40.9	13.89	13.82
Nondurable Goods.....	396.36	389.25	385.59	353.93	39.4	37.5	37.1	10.06	10.31
Food & Kindred Products...	344.92	343.17	346.43	329.18	39.6	39.4	38.1	8.71	8.86
MINING.....	497.13	497.28	495.90	487.33	38.3	37.0	38.8	12.98	13.05
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION.....	478.52	504.45	524.22	570.33	33.3	35.4	38.2	14.37	14.13
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES.....	472.32	486.47	474.24	467.28	38.4	39.2	39.4	12.30	12.16
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services...	492.92	503.37	480.34	455.09	38.3	38.9	38.6	12.87	12.38
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE..	204.66	209.19	210.07	200.78	30.5	31.6	30.7	6.71	6.69
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE.....	249.30	247.53	238.56	229.51	36.5	37.0	36.2	6.83	6.59
SERVICES.....	239.99	233.60	236.55	228.72	32.3	32.4	31.9	7.43	7.19

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

TABLE V-B

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS REAL SPENDABLE WEEKLY EARNINGS

DOLLARS ANNUAL AVERAGE 1975-1984



	Prelim. Sep. 1985	Aug. 1985	July 1985
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	\$287.71	\$290.18	\$290.70
Taxes Withheld <u>3/</u>	45.19	45.86	46.00
Spendable Earnings	242.52	244.32	244.70
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	166.85	167.87	168.03
Real Spendable Earnings	75.67	76.45	76.67

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1985	1984	1983	1985	1984	1983
January	\$273.33	\$275.23	\$264.40	\$74.23	\$77.01	\$77.57
February	276.83	269.77	264.19	74.74	75.55	76.20
March	276.83	265.36	264.99	74.41	74.34	76.22
April	278.99	272.57	267.81	74.57	75.92	76.44
May	286.24	275.72	272.57	75.98	76.47	77.26
June	291.38	276.22	281.06	76.93	76.43	79.15
July	290.70	286.12	282.20	76.68	78.81	79.88
August	290.18	280.40	282.63	76.45	76.53	79.64
September	287.71	287.80	280.73	75.67	78.11	78.84
October		278.01	282.74		75.42	79.19
November		274.82	275.70		74.63	77.46
December		279.39	276.38		75.64	77.02

Average Weekly Earnings/Real Spendable Earnings

In September, average weekly earnings showed a slight decline over last years comparable month - a situation that has not occurred since January. The lessening of the work time created the shrinkage in pay. The real spendable weekly earnings continues to deteriorate from last years figures.

 1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers. 2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers. 3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions. (P) Data for current month preliminary.

TABLE VI
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.
All Items
(1967=100)

	1985		1984		1983	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	316.1	312.6	305.2	302.7	293.1	292.1
February	317.4	313.9	306.6	303.3	293.2	292.3
March	318.8	315.3	307.3	303.3	293.4	293.0
April	320.1	316.7	308.8	304.1	295.5	294.9
May	321.3	317.8	309.7	305.4	297.1	296.3
June	322.3	318.7	310.7	306.2	298.1	297.2
July	322.8	319.1	311.7	307.5	299.3	298.2
August	323.5	319.6	313.0	310.3	300.3	299.5
September	324.5	320.5	314.5	312.1	301.8	300.8
October			315.3	312.2	302.6	301.3
November			315.3	311.9	303.1	301.4
December			315.5	312.2	303.5	301.5
Dec-to-Dec %			4.0%	3.5%	3.8%	3.3%
AVERAGE:			311.1	307.6	298.4	297.4
Ann Avg %			4.3%	3.4%	3.2%	3.0%

Expenditure Category	Sep. 1985	Aug. 1985	July 1985	Sep. 1984	Sep. 1983
CPI-U Index					
All Items	324.5	323.5	322.8	314.5	301.8
Food & Beverages	302.1	301.8	301.6	296.4	285.3
Housing	353.8	352.9	351.6	341.4	326.4
Apparel & Upkeep	209.6	205.3	202.8	204.2	200.4
Transportation	219.7	320.7	321.8	313.7	303.7
Medical Care	408.3	406.6	404.0	383.1	361.2
Entertainment	266.8	265.7	265.7	257.3	247.5
Other Goods & Services	332.3	326.0	325.0	314.6	294.4

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.

Table VII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA*

AREAS	Jul. To Sep. 1985	Jul. To Sep. 1984	Year-to-Date 1985	Year-to-Date 1984	Jul. To Sep. 1985	Jul. To Sep. 1984	Year-to-Date 1985	Year-to-Date 1984
<u>AREAS</u>								
STATE OF MONTANA	941	1045	3024	3445	19	29	.66	74
GREAT FALLS MSA	82	95	251	276	4	6	12	19
BILLINGS MSA	160	117	516	482	14	20	48	50
MULTI COUNTY BUSINESS	47	34	156	140	1	3	6	5
<u>ANACONDA-BUTTE LFA</u>								
Beaverhead	68	71	205	197	69	83	226	244
Deer Lodge	14	8	36	32	7	10	19	22
Granite	6	13	18	25	7	4	14	22
Madison	2	5	11	11	55	69	193	200
Powell	17	4	34	23				
Silver Bow	5	7	19	16				
	24	34	87	90				
<u>KALISPELL LFA</u>								
Flathead	144	159			144	159	457	488
Lake	97	111			97	111	311	336
Lincoln	17	28			17	28	64	83
	30	20			30	20	82	69
<u>LEWISTOWN LFA</u>								
Fergus	19	20			19	20	62	78
Golden Valley	14	13	369		14	13	41	50
Judith Basin	0	0	283		0	0	1	1
Musselshell	2	4	20		2	4	6	8
Petroleum	3	3	66		3	3	10	14
Wheatland	0	0			0	0	2	0
	0	0			0	0	2	5
<u>MILES CITY LFA</u>								
Carter	29	43	94	131	29	43	82	137
Custer	1	0	9	11	1	0	3	1
Fallon	11	22	23	42	11	22	30	64
Powder River	6	2	19	29	6	2	15	10
Rosebud	4	4	34	27	4	4	6	7
Treasure	7	15			7	15	27	49
	0	2			0	2	1	6
<u>MISSOULA LFA</u>								
Mineral	128	134	74	100	128	134	393	474
Missoula	7	9	22	33	7	9	20	24
Ravalli	79	79	0	4	79	79	270	300
Sanders	35	35	7	2	35	35	81	109
	7	11	39	54	7	11	22	41
<u>SHELBY-CUT BANK LFA</u>								
Chouteau	23	44			23	44	97	141
Glacier	1	2	81	114	1	2	17	12
Pondera	10	11	21	35	10	11	28	41
Teton	4	5	30	46	4	5	12	27
Toole	3	17	16	20	3	17	13	29
	5	9	14	13	5	9	27	32

*Change in series. The listing has been reduced to employers enrolling their business with the unemployment insurance compensation program. Dropped from the series was new corporations registered with the Secretary of State. Often a duplication of count occurred when a new corporation filed with the unemployment insurance compensation program.

The new business tally does include successors to active accounts (an established business with a new owner) which amounts to nearly one-third of the total businesses.

COMMENTS ON THE NEW UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REPORTING SYSTEM

In August, the Montana Unemployment Insurance Division implemented an automated processing system. The new system virtually provides for a paperless claims system. More importantly, the results are:

- 1.) Better service to the claimant
- 2.) More accurate statistical data
- 3.) Allowing personnel the time to do their job; which is to ensure that the claimant is actually seeking work and being referred to available job openings.

The data series provided here and in the future will be quite comparable to previous data but should be more accurate. The new system also provides us with more detail data so we may introduce a new data series from time to time.

TABLE VIII-A

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIMS TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals' reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>Net Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Initial Claims	33,860	36,085	-2,225	- 6.2%
Continued Claims	399,707	406,891	-7,184	- 1.8%
Number of Benefit Payments	362,851	378,974	-16,123	- 4.3%
Amount of Benefits Paid	\$43,432,572	\$45,920,431	-\$2,487,859	- 5.4%
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$128.23	\$123.48	+\$4.75	+ 3.8%

MONTHLY

	<u>Sep. 1985</u>	<u>Aug. 1985</u>	<u>Jul. 1985</u>	<u>Change to Current Month from same mnth a yr ago Net</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Initial Claims _{1/}	2,229	2,769	3,254	-78	-3.4%
Continued Claims _{1/}	26,801	24,923	33,987	+694	+2.7%
Number of Benefit Payments _{1/}	20,633	19,850	29,831	-3,085	-13.0%
Amount of Benefits Paid _{1/}	\$2,324,378	\$2,277,073	\$3,347,791	-\$625,613	-21.2%
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt _{1/2/}	\$119.65	\$120.32	\$121.28	-1.09	- 0.9%
Trust Fund Balance*	\$7,507,347	\$9,100,880	-\$151,217	+\$9,998,366	+401.0%

_{1/} Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.

_{2/} Derived According to Definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".

* Does not include loans from Federal Government.

TABLE VIII-B
QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION OF REGULAR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

	SEP. 1985		AUG. 1985		JULY 1985	
	COUNT	AMOUNT	COUNT	AMOUNT	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	96	7,361	76	6,676	114	11,016
BIGHORN	358	42,111	386	43,637	493	54,733
BLAINE	133	14,131	106	10,961	183	18,205
BROADWATER	105	11,250	48	5,770	69	8,307
CARBON	136	16,278	139	17,297	237	26,429
CARTER	9	1,124	5	552	4	280
CASCADE	2,638	305,826	2,096	237,289	3,318	378,537
CHOUTEAU	98	10,270	64	7,008	72	8,252
CUSTER	219	24,863	215	23,477	311	32,405
DANIELS	29	3,125	26	2,741	27	2,712
DAWSON	140	17,756	151	17,855	271	31,251
DEER LODGE	410	42,167	349	37,520	615	67,827
FALLON	61	6,937	36	3,677	104	11,093
FERGUS	199	17,363	141	13,404	287	25,822
FLATHEAD	1,422	154,121	1,080	120,024	1,622	186,770
GALLATIN	866	94,978	760	81,881	1,137	124,129
GARFIELD	4	567	0	0	12	1,128
GLACIER	422	49,722	408	48,086	590	67,793
GOLDEN VALLEY	12	1,642	18	2,629	16	2,055
GRANITE	62	6,441	60	6,268	159	20,681
HILL	410	42,642	350	36,269	512	54,073
JEFFERSON	128	16,286	97	12,036	140	16,429
JUDITH BASIN	35	3,890	32	3,316	41	4,566
LAKE	504	48,280	439	42,275	560	57,136
LEWIS & CLARK	1,396	155,231	1,211	130,859	1,811	195,204
LIBERTY	19	1,488	13	1,062	35	3,138
LINCOLN	300	30,001	319	34,676	569	60,483
MCCONE	11	1,019	16	3,776	22	1,806
MADISON	45	4,422	38	1,287	33	3,654
MEAGHER	29	3,434	23	2,108	25	2,810
MINERAL	65	7,884	53	6,035	98	10,949
MISSOULA	2,118	239,464	1,794	206,150	2,512	285,800
MUSSELSHELL	105	14,435	110	14,904	131	16,799
PARK	225	25,521	195	22,273	336	36,357
PETROLEUM	4	448	4	446	5	619
PHILLIPS	125	13,916	102	11,897	145	14,182
PONDERA	167	18,846	121	15,404	183	23,031
POWDER RIVER	11	1,444	10	1,138	16	1,754
POWELL	181	17,659	151	14,621	212	20,952
PRAIRIE	10	1,606	11	1,557	15	2,435
RAVALLI	448	50,310	386	41,746	628	65,720
RICHLAND	347	39,742	360	41,765	565	69,271
ROOSEVELT	266	30,546	254	30,447	353	42,467
ROSEBUD	388	53,086	438	57,611	674	85,574
SANDERS	281	30,528	257	27,847	387	44,412
SHERIDAN	74	7,652	55	7,009	77	9,491
SILVER BOW	1,006	107,963	959	95,653	1,422	147,440
STILLWATER	93	12,397	100	13,051	138	17,296
SWEET GRASS	31	3,678	27	2,920	30	2,925
TETON	63	8,633	51	7,168	67	9,485
TOOLE	119	14,733	82	10,036	110	12,225
TREASURE	9	750	9	862	14	1,119
VALLEY	234	25,067	179	19,409	280	27,187
WHEATLAND	13	1,851	10	1,508	15	2,124
WIBAUX	20	1789	23	2,345	25	2,759
YELLOWSTONE	3,530	411,599	3,376	392,957	5,020	599,593
NON-CLASSIFIED	404	48,105	218	27,151	80	9,520
TOTAL	20,633	2,324,378	18,037	2,028,326	26,927	3,040,210

TABLE VIII-C
CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF REGULAR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JAN. 1985 THRU SEP. 1985

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	2,696	299,325	2,328	257,148
BIGHORN	4,556	543,710	4,117	476,575
BLAINE	2,293	245,116	2,810	292,870
BROADWATER	1,153	1,160,620	1,411	162,513
CARBON	3,130	374,999	3,668	471,342
CARTER	109	9,851	115	12,371
CASCADE	35,032	4,108,303	34,245	3,663,529
CHOUTEAU	920	96,789	801	83,196
CUSTER	4,294	509,252	4,262	511,925
DANIELS	388	47,192	478	45,351
DAWSON	3,749	447,177	4,181	485,085
DEER LODGE	5,535	630,034	6,193	741,528
FALLON	1,214	143,531	865	96,912
FERGUS	5,210	544,600	4,084	430,047
FLATHEAD	28,727	3,317,945	25,401	2,802,522
GALLATIN	15,939	1,730,465	17,525	1,847,874
GARFIELD	64	7,225	104	15,282
GLACIER	6,134	684,323	7,530	777,409
GOLDEN VALLEY	193	24,401	186	25,938
GRANITE	1,955	280,863	1,116	125,789
HILL	5,523	609,540	7,398	805,250
JEFFERSON	2,541	308,961	2,935	351,592
JUDITH BASIN	435	49,358	530	59,476
LAKE	7,728	810,541	7,306	744,320
LEWIS & CLARK	20,178	2,318,814	19,043	2,106,225
LIBERTY	386	44,712	345	41,195
LINCOLN	12,465	1,548,127	14,342	1,701,621
MCCONE	329	34,614	364	34,567
MADISON	1,053	114,033	1,534	169,770
MEAGHER	815	90,179	1,515	182,838
MINERAL	3,172	409,980	3,220	372,383
MISSOULA	34,043	3,981,266	33,474	3,660,742
MUSSELSHELL	1,630	207,074	1,426	163,530
PARK	5,630	589,667	5,095	494,601
PETROLEUM	36	3,631	91	11,898
PHILLIPS	2,684	340,814	1,753	222,439
PONDERA	2,040	242,745	1,906	188,799
POWDER RIVER	177	22,427	446	50,748
POWELL	2,857	318,489	3,106	349,655
PRAIRIE	352	44,353	416	59,315
RAVALLI	10,776	1,238,469	12,521	1,419,986
RICHLAND	5,974	747,426	4,916	592,132
ROOSEVELT	3,740	421,186	3,284	337,509
ROSEBUD	7,022	959,127	11,106	1,533,962
SANDERS	6,087	740,745	6,247	708,785
SHERIDAN	987	125,904	1,129	120,640
SILVER BOW	15,328	1,711,840	20,757	2,316,199
STILLWATER	2,238	285,073	2,849	352,765
SWEET GRASS	617	70,240	699	71,558
TETON	1,164	142,653	1,087	122,857
TOOLE	1,890	225,165	1,845	200,027
TREASURE	180	20,641	276	37,717
VALLEY	3,428	370,661	3,335	366,823
WHEATLAND	436	53,413	558	65,865
WIBAUX	415	50,347	465	48,612
YELLOWSTONE	57,254	7,030,730	61,292	7,433,173
NONCLASSIFIED	552	65,480	----	----
TOTAL	345,453	41,554,146	360,079	41,505,711

This is a detailed map of the state of Montana, showing its 56 counties, major cities, and geographical features. The map is oriented with the state's outline. Major cities like Helena, Bozeman, Butte, and Great Falls are labeled. The map also shows the locations of various Indian Reservations, such as the Flathead, Blackfoot, and Crow Reservations. The state's borders with Idaho, Wyoming, and North Dakota are indicated.

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